

[Translated from Russian]

## **Azov combatant sentenced in absentia to life in prison for gunning down a car with family members**

<https://lenta.ru/news/2024/02/21/boytsa-azova-zaochno-prigovorili-k-pozhiznennomu-sroku-za-rastrel-mashiny-s-semiey/>

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In the DPR, a court gave a life sentence in absentia to an Azov combatant for gunning down a car with family members

The Supreme Court of the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) sentenced in absentia to life imprisonment the 28-year-old commander of the first detachment of the separate special forces unit "Azov" (a terrorist organization banned in Russia) of the National Guard of Ukraine, Denis Zhuchkov (Денис Жучков), for gunning down a car with family members in Mariupol. The DPR prosecutor's office reported this to Lenta.ru.

The military man was found guilty under points "a, v, zh, l" of Part 2 of Article 105 ("Murder of two or more persons, a minor, committed by an organized group, motivated by political, ideological hatred"), Part 3, Article 30, points "a, v, zh, l" Part 2 of Article 105 ("Attempted murder of two or more persons, minors, committed by an organized group, motivated by political, ideological hatred") and Part 1 of Article 356 ("Cruel treatment of the civilian population in occupied territory") of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation.

According to the department, on March 19, 2022, Zhuchkov and a serviceman Sergei Mikhailenko controlled the roadway at the Kiba combat position. They noticed a civilian car with white tapes and the word "Children" pasted on it. However, by order of the command, the military shot the car with machine guns. There was a family with three small children in the car.

Two men, a woman and a three-year-old boy were killed, the other two children and their grandmother managed to escape.

Earlier it was reported that Mikhailenko also received a life sentence.